

FEATURE – USDA ASSISTS PRODUCER WITH LIVESTOCK MORTALITY

INTRO: Animal mortality issues are part of livestock production. USDA is trying to help producers defray the cost of dealing with disposal issues. The USDA's Bob Ellison has more. (1:30)

DEALING WITH LIVESTOCK MORTALITY CAN BE AN EXPENSIVE AND TIME CONSUMING EFFORT FOR FARMERS. BUT THE U-S DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE WAS ABLE TO HELP AN EAST TEXAS POULTRY PRODUCER FIND A TIME AND COST SAVING SOLUTION. N-R-C-S HELPED PAM SHORT PURCHASE A CHICKEN INCINERATOR.

Pam Short, Farmer, Robertson Co., TX: Working with NRCS was very easy. It was not complicated at all. It made it very easy for me. They basically told me what they was going to pay. And for me to go and find what I needed and turn in my receipts. And it wasn't very long at all I had a check and of course I just put it right toward the payment of the incinerator.

N-R-C-S WAS ABLE TO ASSIST SHORT WITH HALF THE COST OF THE INCINERATOR AND DETERMINE THE SIZE NEEDED FOR HER OPERATION.

Al Schmidt, USDA NRCS: The state of Texas has made poultry a state resource concern. That's allowed us to have a little bit better ability to assist these producers in addressing their waste management concerns.

OTHERWISE, SHORT WOULD HAVE HAD TO RESORT TO A MORE EXPENSIVE AND TIME CONSUMING ALTERNATIVE.

Short: I would probably have to build a composter. It probably has to be at least another two or three hour job that you would have to make time to do. Well if I didn't have the incinerator it would take a lot more time, a lot more money in trying to get rid of the dead birds and the smell and stuff would be a lot worse.

THE ASH FROM THE INCINERATOR IS SPREAD ON CROP AREAS IN ACCORDANCE WITH NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT STANDARDS. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT YOUR LOCAL N-R-C-S OFFICE. FOR THE U-S DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE I'M BOB ELLISON.